(*d*) The tariff value was raised from Bh. Rs. 8 to Bh. Rs. 20 per cwt. with effect from the 1st Karkatakam 1097. The revision has not affected the export trade and this fact shows that the manufacture concerned has also not been affected.

Widening the banks of Channels.

383. **MR. V. CHELLAM PILLAI** (*Tovala*): Will the Government be be pleased to state whether they will take up the question of widening the banks of channels at an early date so as to make them fit for cart traffic?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The matter is engaging the attention of the Government.

Need for a Cross road from Tadikarankonam.

384. **MR. V. CHELLAM PILLAI** (*Tovala*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the shortest distance from Tadikarankonam to Arumanallur and Viravanallur in South Travancore; and

(*b*) the shortest distance by road in the eastern direction and by that in the western direction from the abovesaid place to the abovementioned villages?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The shortest distance from Tadikarankonam to Arumanallur is 3/4 mile and from Tadikarankonam to Viravanallur 1 mile.

(*b*) The shortest distance by road from Tadikarankonam to Viravanallur along the eastern direction is 6 1/2 miles and to Arumanallur 7 1/2 miles and along the western direction 7 and 6 miles respectively.

Cocoanut Farm in Vaikam.

385. **MR. MATTHEW MURIKKAN** (*Vaikam*): Will the Government be pleased to state;

(*a*) whether the Cocoanut Farm in Vaikam is experimental or demonstrative;

(*b*) if experimental, what experiments are being conducted;

(*c*) if demonstrative, what aspects of cocoanut cultivation are being demonstrated;

(*d*) the age of the plants in the Farm; and

(*e*) the expenditure incurred by the Government every year for maintaining the Farm?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The Cocoanut Farm at Vaikam is a demonstration farm.

(*b*) This does not arise in view of the answer to part (*a*).

(*c*) What is demonstrated there is the method of improving old and young cocoanut trees by scientific manuring and cultural operations.

(*d*) The age of the trees ranges from 3 to 70 years.

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(*e*) The information is subjoined.

Year.	*Amount.*
	Rs.
1098	968
1099	579
1100	814
1101	453
1102	557
1103	522
	Total Rs. 3,893.

MR. MATTHEW MURIKKAN (*Vaikam*): Will the member be pleased to tell me whether scientific manuring has any effect on seventy years old trees?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It is a question for expert opinion which I am unable to answer.

MR. MATTHEW MURIKKAN (*Vaikam*): Has not the member consulted expert opinion?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Not the particular matter which the member now refers to, namely whether the manuring is useful to seventy years old trees?

MR. MATTHEW MURIKKAN (*Vaikam*): It is stated in the answer that in the case of even seventy years old trees in the Vaikam cocoanut farm the manuring is applied.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): That is not stated there. The answer simply says that there are in the cocoanut farm even seventy years old trees. But whether manuring is applied to them is not stated.

MR. MATTHEW MURIKKAN (*Vaikam*): May I know the number of trees under six years of age?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I have not got the information.

License for sale of Tobacco.

386. **MR. MATTHEW MURIKKAN** (*Vaikam*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of applications received by the Excise authorities in 1103 and 1104 for the issue of licenses for the sale of tobacco; and

(*b*) the number of applications rejected and the reasons for such rejection?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) and (*b*).

Year.	*Applications received.*	*Applications rejected.*
1103	13,379	864
1104	10,420	396

Applications received in excess of the actual requirements of the localities concerned and those from ineligible persons are rejected as required in Rules 51 and 53 of the Tobacco Rules.

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